

## CD NO.

DATE DISTR. 26 MAY 50

4-NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT 50 U.S.C. 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS CODE IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1

- Prices in North Korean Won

2. When the stock of streptomycin at the People's Hospital in Wonsan (127-26, 39-10) ran low, the hospital authorities took up a collection of gold and silver among the patients for purchase of a new supply. The collected funds were entrusted to the wife of an employee of the Yonchon (127-04, 38-06) Department of Interior, who was to make the purchase. She went to South Korea about 1 January 1950 and purchased both a considerable amount of streptomycin (exact quantity unstated) and some dyestuffs at Choksong-myon (123-56, 37-58), Yangju County (Gun), at the rate of 11,000 South Korean won per momme<sup>37</sup> of gold and 180 South Korean won per momme of silver. Since these rates compared very favorably with the North Korean won rate of 2,500 per momme of gold and 30 per momme of silver, members of the local Department of Interior office were reported to be planning to smuggle gold and silver over the border into South Korea to obtain the higher exchange.
3. In February 1950, there was a rumor circulating in Pyongyang that a currency reform could be expected in the near future. Since the residents were already having difficulties with the high prices of many commodities, the rumor caused some disturbance.

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

Document No. 8  
No Change in Class.  
☒ Declassified  
Class. Changed To:  
Auth.: HB 70-2  
Date: 15 06 75

This document is hereby regraded to  
CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the  
letter of 16 October 1973 from the  
Director of Central Intelligence to the  
Archivist of the United States.  
Approved For Release 2002  
Next Review Date: 2008

Approved For Release 2002/08/07 : CIA-RDP82-00457R004900370008-4

25X1